

Frenchman Valley – Appraisal Study - Plan of Study

Grouping interests identified in 5/4/05 meeting in alternatives

1. Future without Condition – Continue operations as is

- NRD – No “new” restrictions on groundwater pumping
- NRD – no additional controls or regulations
- NRD – no third party impacts from “new” restrictions
- Reclamation – meet authorized purpose of the project?
- Reclamation, Neb DNR, FV-HRW – solvency of the Districts ?
can the Districts continue with as is operations?
- Reclamation – existing contracts with the Irrigation Districts ?
can the Districts continue with as is operations?
- Reclamation – storage and storage use rights are considerably higher than
what is available
- FV-HRW – reliability of the reservoir supply and natural flow supply

2. Optimizing existing facilities related to Enders Reservoir and the irrigated area it serves

- Reclamation – protect federal investment in project, irrigation
- Reclamation – existing contracts with the Irrigation Districts
- Reclamation, Neb DNR, FV-HRW – solvency of the Irrigation Districts
- Reclamation – meet authorized purpose of the project
- Neb DNR – get most benefit of future water supply
- Neb DNR – compact implications
- NRD – stay in compliance with Compact?
- FV-HRW – reliability of reservoir supply and natural flow supply

3. Provide lake level benefits from Enders Reservoir

- NGPC – improved quality of life for the area
- NGPC – higher minimum pool, El. 3089.0
- NGPC – preferred minimum pool, El. 3099.0
- NGPC – improved fisheries
- NGPC – reduced water temperature/algae bloom problems
- NGPC – reduced noxious weed problems
- NGPC – improved water access – boat ramps
- NGPC – improved non-resident economic benefit
- NGPC – protects state investment in facilities
- NGPC – reduced boating safety issues
- Neb. DNR – compact implications – additional evaporation losses
- Neb. DNR – compact implications – acres irrigated?
- Neb. DNR – improve water levels in lake

Neb. DNR – get the most benefit from the future water supply
Reclamation – protect federal investment in project - recreation

4. Provide recharge benefits through the use of Enders Reservoir

Could potentially provide increased reservoir levels

Which would provide benefits as listed in alternative 3. above

FV-HRW – non-district beneficiaries could pay for benefits of recharge

FV-HRW – Reliability of reservoir supply and natural flow supply

Neb. DNR – share benefits & burdens by all beneficiaries

Neb. DNR – examine legal/administrative changes to get greatest benefit

Neb. DNR – get the most benefit of future water supply

Neb. DNR – compact implications

Neb. DNR – intentional groundwater recharge in targeted areas

NRD – no new restrictions on groundwater pumping???

NRD – no additional controls or regulations???

NRD – stay in compliance with Compact?

NRD – who pays for benefits?

Reclamation – downstream irrigation districts' interests

Reclamation – protect federal investment

December 6, 2005

Frenchman Valley Appraisal Study – Plan of Study Objectives, Alternatives, Constraints

Input on planning objectives, alternatives, and constraints will be solicited from the study partners and others.

Planning Objectives

Planning objectives, for which alternatives will be developed to address the problems include:

- Consider all reasonable solutions
- Obtain input from the study partners
- Provide for an acceptable allowance for shortages for the Districts
- Economic feasibility
- Financial feasibility (ability to repay construction costs and annual OM&R)
- Acceptable environmental impacts

Alternatives

- Future Without Condition (40 years out)
- Optimize irrigation benefits of the current project
- Provide lake level benefits at Enders
- Provide groundwater recharge benefits to area
- Maximize benefits to Nebraska for compliance with the Republican River Compact

Constraints

Planning constraints, for which alternatives will be developed to address the problems include:

- Conform to the Final Settlement Stipulation and Proposed Consent Judgment
- Conform to the Republican River Compact
- Conform to the State and NRD regulations
- Conform to Integrated Management Plans developed by the Upper and Middle Republican Natural Resource Districts